Evasion of Customs and Excise Duties

799. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of evasion of customs and excise duties detected during last one year; and

(b) the details of goods and penalty recovered from the evaders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): Information in regard to evasion of customs duty is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course. Partwise reply in regard to evasion of Central Excise duty is as under:–

(a) The number of cases of evasion of Central Excise duty detected during the last one year is 5266.

(b) Good worth Rs. 71.87 crores have been seized on account of violation of provisions of Central Excise Laws. Show cause notices demanding Central Excise duty alleged to have been evaded and for imposition of penalty have been issued.

Foreign Trade During 1991–92

800. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:
SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries and value of the import and export of goods carried out by India during the year 1991–92;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to maintain the trade surplus with those countries;

(c) the action Government propose to take to bring out the trade from deficit to surplus with those countries having deficit of trade; and

(d) the steps government propose to take to widen the areas of export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The break–up of India's exports and imports by countries is available for the period April November, 1991. A Statement indicating the names of the principal counties and the value of import and export of goods carried out by India during April–November, 1991 is attached.

(b) to (d). The State taken by the Government to generate as well as to maintain trade surplus with our trading partners include bilateral discussions at Government to Government level at the forum of Joint Commissions/Joint Trade Committees, exchange of business delegation in trade fairs/exhibitions to publicise Indian capabilities, and provisions of commercial lines of credits to selected countries etc. Besides the Government has also introduced a package of trade policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives, eliminating substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression. REP licences have been replaced by a new instrument names Eximscrips. The system of advance licensing has been strengthened. The Govt. has also taken other steps which include activisation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with selected countries and interaction with national organisations of trade and industry.